

Message Text

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PAGE 01 MEXICO 01151 120118Z

72

ACTION ARA-20

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20

USIA-15 SAM-01 IO-14 SAB-01 AID-20 EB-11 CIEP-02

TRSE-00 STR-08 OMB-01 CEA-02 COME-00 FRB-02 XMB-07

OPIC-12 LAB-06 SIL-01 DRC-01 /187 W

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P 112251Z FEB 74

FM AMEMBASSY MEXICO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 007

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE MEXICO 1151

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, OCON, XM, MX

SUBJ: MEETING OF FOREIGN MINISTERS: DELEGATES ARRIVE FOR PRE-
LIMINARY CONFERENCE

DEPARTMENT PLEASE PASS ALL ARA DIPLOMATIC POSTS

1. DELEGATES ARE NOW ARRIVING IN MEXICO FOR THE PRELIMINARY
"TECHNICAL" CONFERENCE. ALL ARE QUERIED BY AIRPORT JOURNALISTS
AND MOST HAVE COMMENTS.

2. MEXICAN OAS AMBASSADOR DE LA COLINA, UPON ARRIVAL, REPORTED
A CLIMATE OF "CONFIDENCE AND OPTIMISM" IN THE U.S. THE PANAMA
CANAL ISSUE, HE SAID, IS A "TRIUMPH FOR ALL". ON OTHER AGENDA
TOPICS, HE SAID, "WHATEVER MEASURES OF AN ECONOMIC NATURE MAY
BE ADOPTED IN THE LONG RUN WILL BRING RESULTS WHICH WILL FINALLY
SLOW DOWN SOMEWHAT WORLDWIDE INFLATION."

3. GUATEMALAN OAS AMBASSADOR EDUARDO CASTILLO ARRIOLA EXPRESSED
OPTIMISM AND RELATED THE FORTHCOMING CONFERENCE TO PROBLEMS WHICH
HAVE BEEN THE SUBJECT MATTER OF THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE CONCERNED
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PAGE 02 MEXICO 01151 120118Z

WITH RESTRUCTURING OF THE OAS.

4. URUGUAYAN OAS AMBASSADOR MATEO MARQUEZ SERE WAS OPTIMISTIC BUT NON-COMMITTAL ON ARRIVAL, AND AMBASSADOR GEORGE P. STEWART OF THE BAHAMAS REFUSED ANY COMMENT.

5. TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO OAS AMBASSADOR VICTOR MCINTYRE SAID HIS COUNTRY AND GUYANA WOULD CALL FOR AN INTENSE PROGRAM OF TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER.

6. BRAZILIAN OAS AMBASSADOR GEORGE ALVARES MACIEL IS QUOTED IN PRESS AS CALLING FOR TOTAL RESTRUCTURING OF THE OBSOLETE INTER-AMERICAN SYSTEM. HE THOUGHT SUCH RESTRUCTURING MIGHT EMERGE FROM THE MFM. HE CONSIDERED THE MOST IMPORTANT OF THE AGENDA ITEMS THAT REFERRING TO GENERAL RELATIONS BETWEEN LATIN AMERICA AND THE U.S. (SO-CALLED ITEM EIGHT). HE ALSO NOTED, POSSIBLY IN RESPONSE TO A QUESTION, THAT CUBA MIGHT BE CONSIDERED UNDER THIS TOPIC.

7. IN AN ARTICLE RELATING TO THE TECHNICAL CONFERENCE, RADICAL, INFLUENTIAL EXCELSION HEADLINED, "MEXICO SPOKESMAN FOR THE REGION". HEADLINE IS SOMEWHAT MISLEADING IN THAT ARTICLE ONLY INDICATES THAT MEXICO HAS ASKED TO BE SPOKESMAN FOR LATIN AMERICA ON THE SUBJECT OF FOREIGN INVESTMENT. EVEN SO, HEADLINE IS UNLIKELY TO PLEASE MANY OTHER LA DELEGATIONS.

8. EXCELSIOR ALSO REPORTS, WITHOUT CITING SOURCE, THAT BRAZIL HAS INDICATED IT WILL NOT SUPPORT CREATION OF A "CONTINENTAL FRONT" OF RESISTANCE TO ARAB OIL BOYCOTT SHOULD THIS BE PROPOSED.

9. COMMENT: EMBASSY THUS FAR HAS NO REASON TO DOUBT THAT VISITING OFFICIALS COMMENTED AS QUOTED. HOWEVER, THEY WILL DISCOVER THAT GARBLES OR INACCURACIES WILL OCCUR IN PRESS TREATMENT OF THEIR COMMENTS AND THAT RETRACTIONS OR CORRECTIONS LAG FAR BEHIND.
JOVA

NOTE BY OC/T: NOT PASSED ALL ARA DIPLOMATIC POSTS.

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